

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/686,629

Examiner

Chih-Cheng Glen Kao

Applicant(s)

BRUDER ET AL.

Art Unit

2882

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 5/11/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-16.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Donald Daley on March 9, 2007.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1, line 2, replace "its" with --the object's--.

In claim 1, line 3, in the phrase "the direction", replace "the" with --a--.

In claim 1, line 3, in the phrase "the axis", replace "the" with --an--.

In claim 1, line 4, in the phrase "the measured", delete "the".

In claim 1, line 6, delete "and".

In claim 1, line 7, replace "to generate" with --; and generating--.

In claim 1, line 9, in the phrase "the data", delete "the".

In claim 1, lines 9-10, in the phrase "the volume", replace "the" with --a--.

In claim 1, line 10, in the phrase "the radiation", delete "the".

In claim 1, line 11, replace "application" with --applications--.

In claim 1, line 12, replace "a different sequence" with --different sequences--.

In claim 3, line 3, insert a comma after " $Y = \frac{1}{2}(R_T M + M R_T)X$ ".

In claim 4, line 2, insert a colon after "the condition".

In claim 4, line 5, in the phrase “the detector”, replace “the” with --a--.

In claim 5, line 3, insert a comma after “ $Y = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2k+1} (R_i M_k + M_k R_i) X$ ”.

In claim 5, line 5, insert a comma after “the ramp filter”.

In claim 6, line 2, replace “its” with --the mask’s--.

In claim 10, line 2, replace “ray bundle emanating” with

--source emanating a ray bundle--.

In claim 10, line 4, in the phrase “the rays”, delete “the”.

In claim 10, line 7, insert --and-- after “thereto;”.

In claim 10, line 8, insert a comma after “detector data, filtering”.

In claim 10, line 9, replace “application” with --applications--.

In claim 10, line 10, replace “a different sequence” with --different sequences--.

In claim 12, line 3, insert a comma after “ $Y = \frac{1}{2} (R_i M + M R_i) X$ ”.

In claim 13, line 2, insert a colon after “the condition”.

In claim 13, line 5, in the phrase “the detector”, replace “the” with --a--.

In claim 14, line 3, insert a comma after “ $Y = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2k+1} (R_i M_k + M_k R_i) X$ ”.

In claim 14, line 5, insert a comma after “ramp filter”.

In claim 16, line 2, replace “its” with --the object’s--.

In claim 16, line 3, in the phrase “the direction”, replace “the” with --a--.

In claim 16, line 3, in the phrase “the axis”, replace “the” with --an--.

In claim 16, line 5, in the phrase “the measured”, delete “the”.

In claim 16, line 7, delete “and”.

In claim 16, lines 8-9, replace “to generate” with --; and means for generating--.

In claim 16, line 10, in the phrase “the data”, delete “the”.

In claim 16, lines 10-11, in the phrase “the volume”, replace “the” with --a--.

In claim 16, line 11, in the phrase “the radiation”, delete “the”.

In claim 16, line 12, replace “application” with --applications--.

In claim 16, line 13, replace “a different sequence” with --different sequences--.

Reasons for Allowance

3. Claims 1-16 are allowed. The following is an examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance.

Regarding claims 1, 10, and 16, prior art fails to disclose or fairly suggest an imaging method, a CT unit, or an imaging device, including wherein filtering is performed by multiple applications of a ramp filter R_f and a masking operation M to a projection image in different sequences, in combination with all the limitations in the claim. Claims 2-9 and 11-15 are allowed by virtue of their dependency.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Art Unit: 2882

Conclusion

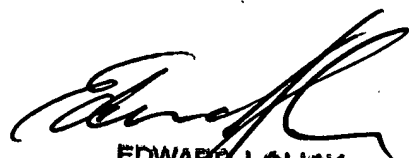
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chih-Cheng Glen Kao whose telephone number is (571) 272-2492. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F (9 am to 5 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ed Glick can be reached on (571) 272-2490. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



gk



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